FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by

FINAL DECISION

Richard Quint,

Complainant

against

Docket # FIC 2025-0110

Chief, Police Department, Town of Seymour; Police Department, Town of Seymour; and Town of Seymour,

Respondents

October 8, 2025

The above-captioned matter was heard as a contested case on June 25, 2025, at which time the complainant and the respondents appeared, stipulated to certain facts and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint. The complainant, who is incarcerated, appeared via teleconference, pursuant to the January 2004 memorandum of understanding between the Commission and the Department of Correction. See Docket No. CV 03-0826293, *Anthony Sinchak v. FOIC et al*, Superior Court, J.D. of Hartford at Hartford, Corrected Order dated January 27, 2004 (Sheldon, J.).

After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found and conclusions of law are reached:

- 1. The respondents are public agencies within the meaning of §1-200(1), G.S.
- 2. It is found that, by letter dated January 30, 2025, the complainant requested that the respondents provide him with copies of body and dash camera footage from a January 19, 2021 traffic stop involving the complainant and three officers: Officers Erdman, Marra and Dempsey.
- 3. It is found that, by letter dated February 12, 2025, the respondents notified the complainant that they do not maintain any records responsive to his request.
- 4. By complaint filed February 20, 2025, the complainant appealed to the Commission, alleging that the respondents violated the Freedom of Information ("FOI") Act by denying his request for copies of the records described in paragraph 2, above.
 - 5. Section 1-200(5), G.S., provides:

"Public records or files" means any recorded data or information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used, received or retained by a public agency, or to which a public agency is entitled to receive a copy by law or contract under

section 1-218, whether such data or information be handwritten, typed, tape-recorded, videotaped, printed, photostated, photographed or recorded by any other method.

6. Section 1-210(a), G.S., provides, in relevant part:

Except as otherwise provided by any federal law or state statute, all records maintained or kept on file by any public agency, whether or not such records are required by any law or by any rule or regulation, shall be public records and every person shall have the right to ... (3) receive a copy of such records in accordance with the provisions of section 1-212.

- 7. Section 1-212(a), G.S., provides in relevant part, that "[a]ny person applying in writing shall receive, promptly upon request, a plain, facsimile, electronic or certified copy of any public record."
- 8. It is concluded that the requested records, to the extent such records exist and are maintained by the respondents, are public records within the meaning of §§1-200(5) and 1-210(a), G.S.
- 9. During the hearing in this matter, the respondents contended that they do not maintain any records responsive to the request described in paragraph 2, above. The respondents presented two witnesses in support of their contention: the respondents' records clerk, and a sergeant who was present during the January 19, 2021, traffic stop, referenced in paragraph 2, above.
- 10. It is found, based on the credible testimony of the respondents' witnesses, that at the time of the incident referenced in paragraph 2, above, the respondents did not possess body and dash camera systems. It is further found that such systems were not obtained and employed by the respondents until 2022.
- 11. Based on the foregoing, it is found that the records requested by the complainant, as described in paragraph 2, above, do not exist and are not maintained by the respondents.
- 12. It is therefore concluded that the respondents did not violate the FOI Act as alleged in the complaint.

The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above-captioned complaint:

1. The complaint is hereby dismissed.

Approved by Order of the Freedom of Information Commission at its regular meeting of October 8, 2025.

Jennifer M. Mayo
Acting Clerk of the Commission

PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-180(c), G.S., THE FOLLOWING ARE THE NAMES OF EACH PARTY AND THE MOST RECENT MAILING ADDRESS, PROVIDED TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION, OF THE PARTIES OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE.

THE PARTIES TO THIS CONTESTED CASE ARE:

RICHARD QUINT, #123433, MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution, 1153 East Street, South, Suffield, CT 06080

CHIEF, POLICE DEPARTMENT, TOWN OF SEYMOUR; POLICE DEPARTMENT, TOWN OF SEYMOUR; AND TOWN OF SEYMOUR, c/o Attorney Bryan L. LeClerc and Attorney Alanna M. Ferrigno, Berchem Moses PC, 75 Broad Street, Milford, CT 06460

Jennifer M. Mayo

Acting Clerk of the Commission

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